Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SCA-01 DHA-02 L-03 H-01 SS-15 NSC-05 A-01 OPR-02 PRS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /041 W

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O 251920Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1831
INFO AMCONSUL RECIFE IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL BRASILIA 4235

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, BR

SUBJECT: W/W -- ARREST: (CAPUANO, THOMAS) (ROSEBAUGH, LAWRENCE):
NEXT STEPS

REF: A. BRASILIA 4145 B. RECIFE 0069 AND PREVIOUS

1. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, EMBASSY HAS KEPT BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY INFORMED OF EVENTS IN CAPUANO/ ROSEBAUGH CASE, AND HAS REGISTERED ORALLY OUR DISSATISFACTION WITH SOME OF THE EXPLANATIONS THUS FAR OFFERED BY PERNAMBUCO STATE SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC SECURITY. HOWEVER, WE AS YET HAVE NOT ADDRESSED ANY WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO FONMIN IN THE MATTER.

2. IN VIEW OF WRITTEN DECLARATIONS OF THOMAS ROSEBAUGH,
AS PRESENTED TO REPORTERS AND REPORTED TODAY (MAY 25) IN BRAZILIAN
PRESS (SEPTEL), AND TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE IMMINENCE OF MRS. CARTER'S VISIT TO BRAZIL, WE BELIEVE THAT
THERE ARE NOW TWO ALTERNATIVES OPEN TO US IN DEALING WITH
THIS MATTER: (A) ALTERNATIVE 1: EMBASSY WOULD PROMPTLY
SEND A NOTE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. NOTE WOULD BRING
CASE TO FONMIN'S ATTENTION; EXPRESS EMBASSY CONCERN OVER
TREATMENT METED OUT TO ROSEBAUGH AND CAPUANO, WITH EMPHASIS
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ON FAILURE OF POLICE AUTHORITIES TO INFORM
CONSULATE RECIFE OF ARRESTS; NOTE WITH SATISFACTION
THE REMEDIAL ACTIONS THUS FAR TAKEN BY PERNAMBUCO STATE
GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING DETENTION OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE
AND STEPS TO ESTABLISH A NOTIFICATION SYSTEM IN EVENT OF
FUTURE ARRESTS OF FOREIGN NATIONALS (REFTEL B); AND EXPRESS
HOPE THAT THESE STEPS, AND SUCH OTHER MEASURES AS THE FEDERAL

GOVERNMENT ITSELF MAY SEE FIT TO TAKE, WILL AVOID SIMILAR OCCURENCES IN THE FUTURE IN PERNAMBUCO OR ELSEWHERE IN BRAZIL. EMBASSY NOTE WOULD NOT BE PUBLICIZED BUT -- OF COURSE, -- THE FACT THAT IT HAD BEEN SENT WOULD HAVE TO BE ACKNOWLEDGED SHOULD WE RECEIVE A SPECIFIC PRESS QUERY ABOUT ACTIONS WE HAVE TAKEN IN THE CASE.

(B) ALTERNATIVE 2: EMBASSY WOULD ASSUME STANCE, BOTH WITH GOB AND (IF ASKED) WITH PRESS, THAT WE ARE AWAITING THE OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE STATE INQUIRY BEING CONDUCTED INTO THE ARRESTS, BEFORE DECIDING UPON FURTHER ACTION. UNDER THIS ALTERNATIVE AN EMBASSY NOTE IN THE TERMS OUTLINED ABOVE WOULD PROBABLY BE CALLED FOR EVENTUALLY, BUT THE TIME REQUIRED FOR COMPLETION OF THE STATE INQUIRY COULD RESULT IN DELIVERY AFTER MRS. CARTER'S VISIT.

3. EMBASSY LEANS TOWARDS ADOPTION OF FIRST ALTERNATIVE, I.E., PROMPT DELIVERY OF NOTE. HOWEVER, IN LIGHT OF POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF EITHER OPTION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MRS. CARTER VISIT (ALTERNATIVE 1 IMPACTING UPON THE BRAZILIAN OFFICIAL CLIMATE FOR THE VISIT; ALTERNATIVE 2 POSSIBLY IMPACTING UPON U.S. PUBLIC OPINION), EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON'S THOUGHTS ASAP. CRIMMINS

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Subject: W/W -- ARREST: (CAPUANO, THOMAS) (ROSEBAUGH, LAWRENCE): NEXT STEPS TAGS: CASC, PFOR, PGOV, BR, US, (CAPUANÓ, THOMAS), (RÓSEBAUGH, LAWRENCE)

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